

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of each claim of the present application is provided below.

Claims 1-3: Canceled.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for screening and for selecting antiparasitic agents, herbicides or combinations thereof, comprising

- incubating a substance to be tested with a monogalactosyldiacylglycerol ~~an MGDG~~ synthase or with a plastidial membrane isolated from a plant, ~~and~~
- measuring the specific enzymatic activity, after said incubation; and
- selecting the substance that is able to inhibit the specific enzymatic activity of the monogalactosyldiacylglycerol synthase.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said monogalactosyldiacylglycerol ~~MGDG~~ synthase has an initial specific activity of between 0.1 and 120 μmol of galactose incorporated/h/mg of protein.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the monogalactosyldiacylglycerol ~~MGDG~~ synthase/substance to be tested incubation is carried out in an incubation medium containing a buffer adjusted to a pH of between 6 and 9, in the presence of detergents, a reducing agent, phosphatidylglycerol, a salt or combinations thereof.

7. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the incubation medium further comprises 50 mM of MOPS-NaOH, 4.5 mM of CHAPS, 1 mM of DTT, 1.3 mM of phosphatidylglycerol, 250 mM of $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$ and 250 mM of KCl, and has a pH of 7.8.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the monogalactosyldiacylglycerol MGDG synthase is of plant origin and is selected from the group consisting of the purified monogalactosyldiacylglycerol MGDG synthases A, recombinant monogalactosyldiacylglycerol MGDG synthases A, purified monogalactosyldiacylglycerol MGDG synthases B, and recombinant monogalactosyldiacylglycerol MGDG synthases B.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said antiparasitic agent is effective against an apicomplex parasite is selected from the group consisting of *Plasmodium*, *Toxoplasma* and *Eimeria*.

Claims 10-17: Cancelled.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the substance is an antiparasitic agent.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the substance is a herbicide.

Application No. 09/926,169
Reply to Office Action of August 24, 2004

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The claims have been amended to replace the abbreviation “MGDG” with --monogalactosyldiacylglycerol--. The remaining amendments to Claims 4, the amendment to Claim 9 and newly-added Claims 18-19 are supported by the specification at pages 2-21. Accordingly, no new matter is believed to have been added to the present application by the amendments submitted above.